

Appl. No. 09/720,228
Amdt. Dated October 25, 2004
Reply to Office Action of January 30, 2004

Amendments to the Claims:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

Listing of Claims:

Claims 1-7. (Previously cancelled)

8. (Currently Amended) Reel-up of a web comprising:

reeling means for guiding a web onto a reel spool to thereby form a reel;

supporting structures having a fixed bearing surface for supporting said reel spool having a reel being formed or a complete reel thereon, and on along which said reel spool or said complete reel can roll; and

a slide having a supporting surface structured and arranged to retain said reel spool having a reel being formed or said complete roll thereon, and along which said reel spool being formed or said complete roll can roll wherein said slide is movable for having a variable space between said reeling means and said slide; and wherein said slide is movable from a functional vicinity of the reeling means for moving said reel spool having a reel being formed away from said reeling means during the reeling process, to a vicinity of said fixed bearing surface, for rolling said reel spool having a reel being formed or said complete roll from said supporting surface on to said fixed bearing surface.

9. (Previously Amended) Reel-up according to claim 8 wherein said supporting surface and said fixed bearing surface are structured and arranged substantially on the same vertical and horizontal planes.

10. (Previously Amended) Reel-up according to claim 8 wherein, said slide is structured and arranged to be supported by said supporting structures.

11. (Previously Amended) Reel-up according to claim 8 wherein said supporting surface is structured and arranged to have a width equal to a width of said fixed bearing surface.

12. (Previously Amended) Reel-up according to claim 10 wherein said supporting surface is provided with a mating surface formed on an end thereof and wherein said fixed bearing surface is provided with a corresponding mating surface formed on an end thereof such that when said slide is brought in contact with the said fixed bearing surface, a mating section is formed therebetween, said mating section extending on at least a length of the said supporting surface and said fixed bearing surface.

13. (Previously Amended) Reel-up according to claim 8, wherein said supporting surface is structured and arranged to be a rolling surface on which said reel spool can roll and move with respect to said supporting surface.

14. (Previously Amended) Reel-up according to claim 8, wherein said supporting surface is structured and arranged to form an extension of said fixed bearing surface, whereby said reel spool can be moved from said supporting surface to said fixed bearing surface by rolling.

15. (Previously Amended) Method according to claim 18, further comprising the steps of:
providing a reeling carriage for supporting said reel during a change of said reel;
providing a pressing device in the form of a roll attached to said reeling carriage, and driving, substantially immediately after said reel change, said reeling carriage to the vicinity of said reeling means.

16. (Previously Amended) Method according to claim 15, further comprising the step of:
starting the reeling on ~~the~~ a new reel spool before said reeling carriage is driven to the vicinity of said reeling means.

17. (Previously Amended) Method according to claim 15, further comprising the steps of:
reeling, after said reel change, said web with a support of a primary reeling device for a suitable period of time; and
driving said reeling carriage together with said pressing device to the vicinity of said reeling means during this period of time.

18. (Previously Amended) A method for reeling a web in a reel-up, comprising the steps of:

providing a reel spool, each reel spool having a pair of opposed ends;

providing reeling means for guiding said web on to said reel spool, said reel spool and said reeling means defining a reeling nip therebetween;

supporting said pair of opposed ends of said reel spool on a slide having a supporting surface when said reeling means and said reel spool are in a nip closed position and along which supporting reel spool can roll, wherein said slide is movable for having a variable space between said reeling means and said slide;

forming a reel on said reel spool; and

changing the position of said reel with respect to said reeling means, as said reel is being formed on said reel spool being supported on said supporting surface.

19. (Previously added) The method according to claim 18, further comprising the step of:
sliding said slide away from said reeling means as said reel being formed on said reel spool grows in diameter.

20. (Previously Amended) The method according to claim 18, further comprising the step of:

providing a fixed bearing surface structured and arranged to receive said reel spool from said

supporting surface thereon, wherein said supporting surface is provided with a rolling surface vertically aligned with said fixed bearing surface such that said pair of opposed ends of said reel spool can roll from said supporting surface to said fixed bearing surface.

21. (Previously Amended) The method according to claim 18, further comprising the step of:

placing an empty reel spool onto said supporting surface at an initial stage of the reeling process.

22. (Previously Amended) The method according to claim 18, further comprising the steps of:

during a reel spool change situation:

opening said nip closed position by sliding said reel spool away from said reeling means; and

transferring said reel spool from said supporting surface to rail members structured and arranged to receive said opposed ends of said reel spool.

23. (Previously Amended) The method according to claim 18, further comprising the steps of:

during a reel spool change situation:

sliding said slide into an initial position in the vicinity of said reeling means; and

transferring a new reel spool on to said supporting surface.

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24. (Previously Amended) The method according to claim 20, further comprising the step
of:

during a reel spool change situation:

sliding said slide, having a full reel spool supported thereon, along rail members; and
rolling said full reel spool from said supporting surface to said fixed bearing surface.